

## HOUSE BILL NO. 272

INTRODUCED BY A. OLSON, DALE, DAVIES, FUCHS, LEHMAN, MCGEE, K. MILLER, PATTISON,  
A. PETERSON, K. PETERSON, RIPLEY, SCHRUMPF, SLITER, WALTERS

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING A ~~STUDENT~~ SCHOOL DISTRICT TO DETERMINE  
THE AMOUNT OF TIME FOR WHICH A STUDENT MAY BE RELEASED FROM SCHOOL FOR ~~ONE CLASS~~  
~~PERIOD PER DAY~~ FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION; AND AMENDING SECTION 20-1-308, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 20-1-308, MCA, is amended to read:

**"20-1-308. Religious instruction released time program.** (1) The trustees of ~~an elementary or high~~  
A school district may provide for a religious instruction released time program under which a pupil may be  
released from regular school attendance ~~for a period not to exceed 2 hours per week one standard class~~  
~~period per school day~~ for the purpose of receiving religious instruction upon written request, renewed at  
least annually, of the pupil's parent or guardian. THE TRUSTEES SHALL DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF TIME FOR WHICH  
A PUPIL MAY BE RELEASED FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

(2) ~~No~~ A religious instruction released time program may not be established or administered in  
such a way that public school property is utilized for the purpose of religious instruction.

(3) ~~No public moneys~~ Public money may not be used, directly or indirectly, for ~~such~~ the religious  
instruction.

(4) Any period for which a pupil is released under a religious instruction released time program is  
part of the school day and week for purposes of 20-1-301, 20-1-302, 20-5-103, 20-9-311, and all other  
provisions of Title 20, and ~~such~~ the release may not adversely affect the pupil's attendance record."

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